(ix) Customs duty reduced on other man-made filament yarn & staple fibres of acrylic & viscose from 10% to 5%.

(x) Customs duty reduced in spun yarn of man-made staple fibres & filament yarn (other than nylon) from 10% to 5%.

(xi) Customs duty reduced in polyester chips from 7.5% to 5%.

Promotion of handloom products in other countries

1781. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether khadi and handloom products are proposed to be marketed abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian handloom products are fast gaining popularity among European fashionists; and

(d) the action plan of Government to promote handloom products from India, especially from Orissa, to other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Handloom and Khadi products are already marketed in the overseas markets.

(b) As per the available data, the total value of exports of cotton handloom products during 2002-03 stood at Rs. 2633.27 crore. In the absence of separate ITC (HS) codes for handloom products, the export data for handloom products is not available from April 2004 onwards. For promotion of export of handloom products, a Scheme under the name of Marketing and Export Promotion has been approved for implementation during the Eleventh Plan. A scheme for promotion of export of Khadi & V.I. products, including Khadi is also under implementation.

(c) Due to absence of export data for handlooms from April 2004 onwards, the trend for handloom exports could not be monitored.

(d) The Government has been taking following steps to promote handloom products from India, including Orissa, to other countries:

(i) Handloom Export Promotion Council has been conducting various awareness seminars/workshops regularly in important weaving centres of the country including Orissa in which subjects such as technological development on handloom weaving for productivity and product diversification, export documentation & procedures, common dyeing defect in handloom fabrics and its remedy, concept of handloom designs and colour combination etc. are dealt with.

(ii) Participation in international fairs and exhibitions on regular basis. The Orissa State Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society Ltd., Bhubaneshwar, which is an Apex society of Orissa has been given preference to participate in international fairs being held in India and abroad.

(iii) Handloom Export Scheme, which was in operation during the 10th Plan provided assistance to the handloom agencies in developing diversified range of handloom

products and international marketing thereof. The Scheme has been modified and continued during the Eleventh Plan period under the name of Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme. 4 Export Projects have been sanctioned to the handloom agencies of Orissa State for development of exportable handloom products under the erstwhile Handloom Export Scheme.

(iv) In order to establish a distinct identity, genuineness and quality of handloom products, Handloom Mark Scheme has been introduced on 28th June 2006.

(v) Brand promotion of Orissa handloom products was also undertaken by bringing out special publicity brochures and posters, which have been displayed in the leading international textile fairs abroad.

(vi) Various export promotion schemes are operated by the Department of Commerce such as Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Market Development Assistance (MDA) Market Access Initiative (MAI) etc.

Dedicated textile cargo handling facilities

1782. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up dedicated textile cargo handling facilities at major international airports and seaports to boost this sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the places in Orissa where such facilities are proposed to be created;

(c) whether Government also propose to have uniform tariff rates across all the ports in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

NTC mills in Maharashtra, Gujarat, U.P. and other States

1783. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of NTC mills in Maharashtra, Gujarat, U.P. and other States as on 1.1.2005;

(b) how many of above are functioning as on 1.1.2007 and how many are closed;

(c) the details of land sold and receipt of the Central Government on account of such sale during 2005 to March 2007; and

(d) the policy regarding sharing sale-proceeds with State Government and local bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The state-wise total number of mills under National Textile Corporation (NTC) as on 1.1.2005 alongwith functioning and closed mills as on 1.1.2007 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Details of land sold during 2005 to March 2007 are enclosed Statement-II (*See* below) As per the Revival Scheme approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for NTC, there is no policy regarding sharing of sale proceeds with